

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned patent application:

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (New) An arrangement for implanting into a jawbone of a recipient, comprising:

two or more implants configured to be positioned at least partially into a hole disposed within the jaw bone;

at least one strengthening element configured to be attached to the jaw bone; and

at least one growth stimulating substance (GSS) disposed on said implants,

wherein said implants and said strengthening elements are configured and arranged to form a space adjacent to the jaw bone into which said at least one GSS is configured to be released from said implants into said space to form new bone.

12. (New) The arrangement of claim 11, wherein said strengthening element comprises at least one GSS disposed thereon, wherein said at least one GSS is configured to be released from said strengthening element into said space to form new bone.

13. (New) The arrangement of claim 11, wherein one of said implants and said strengthening element is configured to be covered by one of at least a soft tissue of the jaw bone and a periosteum of the jaw bone to form said space.

14. (New) The arrangement of claim 11, wherein said two or more implants further comprises: a first implant configured to be positioned at least partially into a first hole in the jaw bone; and
a second implant configured to be positioned at least partially into a second hole in the jaw bone,

wherein said first implant extends out of said first hole by a first dimension which is greater than a second dimension by which said second implant extends out of said second hole.

15. (New) The arrangement of claim 11, wherein said strengthening element is configured to interface with a dental structure positioned adjacent to said strengthening element.

16. (New) The arrangement of claim 11, further comprising:

one or more screws configured to attach said strengthening element to the jaw bone.

17. (New) The arrangement of claim 16, further comprising:

one or more arm-shaped members extending from said strengthening element configured to anchor said strengthening element to the jaw bone.

18. (New) The arrangement of claim 16, wherein said strengthening element is configured to extend over one of at least a top face of the jaw bone and a vertical side of the jaw bone.

19. (New) A method for using an arrangement for implanting into a jaw bone of a recipient, having two or more implants configured to be positioned at least partially into a hole disposed within the jaw bone, at least one strengthening element configured to be attached to the jaw bone, and at least one growth stimulating substance (GSS) disposed on the implants, comprising:

forming a first and second hole, wherein the first hole and second hole are dimensioned to receive a first and second implant respectively;

positioning the first implant into the first hole and the second implant into the second hole, wherein a portion of the first and second implants extends at least partially outside the first and second holes by first and second dimensions respectively;

attaching a strengthening element to the jaw bone, thereby defining a space between the strengthening element and the first and second implants; and

allowing the release of the GSS configured to form new bone growth from the arrangement into the defined space.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein said attaching a strengthening element to the jaw bone further comprises:

covering the first and second implant with one of at least a soft tissue of the jaw bone and a periosteum of the jaw bone.

21. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein said first dimension is greater than said second dimension.

22. (New) An arrangement for implanting into a jaw bone of a recipient, comprising:

two or more implants configured to be positioned at least partially into a hole disposed within the jaw bone;

means for defining a space between the first and second implants and the jaw bone; and
at least one growth stimulating substance (GSS) disposed on said implants,

wherein said implants and said space defining means are configured and arranged to allow said at least one GSS to be released from said implants into said space to form new bone.